

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant :	Ken-ichi Nakayama et al.	Art Unit :	1652
Serial No. :	10/089,014	Examiner :	Manjunath N. Rao
Filed :	March 25, 2002	Confirmation No.:	9140
		Notice of Allowance Date:	November 27, 2006
Title :	GDP-4-KETO-6-DEOXY-D-MANNOSE-3, 5-EPIMERASE-4-REDUCTASE GENE DERIVED FROM ARABIDOPSIS THALIANA		

MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND
COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

In response to the Notice of Allowance mailed November 27, 2006, we enclosed are a completed issue fee transmittal form PTOL-85b. The required fee is \$1400. Please apply this charge and any additional charges or credits to our Deposit Account No. 06-1050, referencing Attorney Docket No. 11283-019US1.

Applicants respectfully submit that the text of the Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance that reads "Following a diligent search it was determined that the prior art neither teaches nor suggests a polynucleotide sequence with SEQ ID NO:2 encoding a polypeptide with 5-epimerase-4- reductase activity as claimed in claims 1-10." should read "Following a diligent search it was determined that the prior art neither teaches nor suggests a polynucleotide sequence with SEQ ID NO:2 encoding a polypeptide with GDP-4-keto-6-deoxy-D-mannose-3, 5-epimerase-4- reductase activity as claimed in claims 3-10."

Applicants recognize that in accordance with M.P.E.P. § 1302.14, the Examiner's reasons for allowance need not set forth all of the details as to why the claims are allowed. In the above-referenced application, Applicants do not concede that the Examiner's stated reasons for allowance are the only reasons for which the claims are allowable. Furthermore, the claims may be patentable for other reasons. In addition, dependent claims 4-10 are allowable on their own merits, and are allowable on the basis of a sub-combination of the recited features of the dependent claims and their respective base claims.

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Respectfully submitted,

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